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TWO CHARGED IN STOLEN CHECK CASE

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal grand jury in Sacramento returned an indictment charging JAMES CORDRAY, age 40, and MARK BARNUM, age, 32, both of Sacramento, with multiple counts of bank fraud and possession of stolen mail.

This case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service.

According to Assistant United States Attorney James P. Arguelles, the indictment charges that defendants CORDRAY and BARNUM were involved in a bank fraud scheme which involved the use of chemicals to "wash" checks which had been stolen from the mail. As part of the scheme, after being altered, these stolen checks were subsequently forged and negotiated.

If convicted, defendants CORDRAY and BARNUM face a maximum sentence of thirty years in prison and up to a \$1,000,000 fine for each count of bank fraud charged, and a maximum sentence of five years in prison and up to a \$250,000 fine for each count of possession of stolen mail charged.

The charges in the indictment are only allegations and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

A copy of this news release is available at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae/home>, select Press Releases.

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